

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Federal Agencies and Departments

The following departments and agencies of the federal government have offices in Hawaii. The services they provide are outlined below.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, in cooperation with state governments, administers federal laws and regulations pertaining to animal and plant health and quarantine, the humane treatment of animals, and the control and eradication of pests and diseases. Regulations to prevent the introduction or interstate spread of certain animal or plant pests or diseases are also enforced by the Service. It also carries out research and operational activities to reduce crop and livestock depredations caused by birds, rodents, and predators.

Farm Service Agency

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) serves to stabilize farm income, help farmers conserve land and water resources, provide credit to new or disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, and help farm operations recover from the effects of disasters.

FSA was established when the Department of Agriculture was reorganized in 1994, incorporating programs from several agencies, including the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (now a separate risk management agency), and the Farmers Home Administration.

Food and Nutrition Service

The Food and Nutrition Service administers the Food Stamp Program. In administering the Food Stamp Program, the Service assists state and county governments, wholesale and retail food distributors, the general public, and others involved with the Program. In addition, the Food and Nutrition Service in Hawaii administers the School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Special Milk Program, Child/Adult Care Food Program, Food Distribution Program, Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children, and the Emergency Food Assistance Program.

Food Safety and Inspection Service

The Food Safety and Inspection Service is responsible for regulating the meat and poultry industries to ensure that meat and poultry products moving in interstate and foreign commerce are safe, wholesome, and accurately labeled. The Service also conducts surveillance of foreign inspection systems exporting meat or poultry products to the United States.

Forest Service, Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry

The Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry conducts research on forests and assists managers of natural resources in Hawaii and other islands of the Pacific Basin. Programs include restoration of ecosystem processes, control of non-indigenous plant species, ecology of forested wetlands, and forest management services.

Hawaii Agricultural Statistics Service

The Hawaii Agricultural Statistics Service, a field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, administers programs to collect and publish statistics related to farm production level agriculture, and other related statistics.

Natural Resources Conservation Service

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), formerly the Soil Conservation Service, is focused on conservation and management of natural resources primarily on private lands. The assistance of the Service in Hawaii is provided through sixteen locally organized Soil and Water Conservation Districts, local sponsors of small watershed projects, four Resource Conservation and Development Councils, and direct consultation with other individuals and groups.

NRCS conducts a Natural Resources Inventory every five years to assess conditions and trends of the land, especially regarding soil erosion. Additional resource assessments are also conducted, usually in conjunction with others. NRCS is also responsible for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Forestry Incentives Program, Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program, Wetlands Reserve Program, Farmland Protection Program, and the Grazing Land Initiative. In the area of water resources, the Service is responsible for the Watershed Protection and Flood Control Act and the Emergency Watershed Protection Program.

Rural Development

Created in 1994 as part of the restructuring of the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development represents the merger of the Farmers Home Administration, Rural Development

Administration, and the Rural Electrification Administration. Financial assistance programs are administered by three agencies under the Rural Development mission area:

Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS): Provides business programs that help fund projects that create or preserve jobs or promote a clean rural environment. RBS also provides technical assistance services for newly created and existing cooperative businesses. The Business and Industrial Guaranteed Loan Program provides rural businesses with access to loans for business expansion or start-up.

Rural Housing Service (RHS): Provides single-family and multiple-housing assistance to moderate- or low-income families in rural areas. RHS also administers a Community Facilities Program to build or improve public facilities such as hospitals, health clinics, fire and police stations, community centers, libraries, and other essential community facilities.

Rural Utilities Service (RUS): Provides financial assistance for electric energy, water, and waste disposal projects, and telecommunications. The Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program provides for the installation or improvement of community water systems, sewer systems, and solid waste disposal systems serving rural areas.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Economic Development Administration

The mission of the Economic Development Administration is to create and retain jobs; stimulate industrial, technological, and commercial growth in economically distressed areas; and to assist communities in creating projects that economically grow the community in areas both urban and rural -- areas experiencing high unemployment, low per capita income, and other signs of economic distress. Grants are available to state and local governments; public and private nonprofit organizations in cooperation with local governments; public and private universities; community-based nonprofit organizations in cooperation with local governments; and business groups with trade adjustment issues.

International Trade Administration

The activities of the International Trade Administration are intended to promote progressive business practices and world trade, strengthen the international trade and investment position of the United States, actively support a vital private economic sector, and assist in adapting to changes within the American economic system. To achieve its goals, the Administration engages in export development, East-West trade, trade regulation, international economic policy, research and development, and domestic business development.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is the nation's premier earth science agency. NOAA's mission is to describe and predict changes in the earth's environment and to conserve and manage the nation's coastal and marine resources. The agency comprises five major organizations: (1) the National Weather Service, (2) the National Marine Fisheries Service, (3) the National Ocean Service, (4) the National Environmental Satellite Data and Information Service, and (5) the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research.

Among the NOAA offices in Hawaii are the Honolulu Forecast Office/Central Pacific Hurricane Center and the Honolulu Fisheries Lab at UH-Manoa, the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center at Ewa Beach, the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary offices in Honolulu and Kihei, and the Mauna Loa Observatory on the Big Island.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

U.S. Pacific Command

Vision: A joint command directing and coordinating the employment of U.S. Forces in peace, crisis, or war to advance U.S. interests as an active player, partner, and beneficiary in pursuit of a secure, prosperous, and democratic Asia-Pacific community.

Mission: Ready today and preparing for tomorrow, the U.S. Pacific Command enhances security and promotes peaceful development in the Asia-Pacific region by deterring aggression, responding to crisis, and fighting to win.

Overview: The U.S. Pacific Command is the oldest and geographically largest unified command. Its area of responsibility encompasses forty-three countries, nearly sixty per cent of the world's population, supports five of seven worldwide U.S. mutual defense treaties, contains six of the world's largest armies, and is the source of about one-third of U.S. trade.

U.S. Pacific Command forces consist of 300,000 soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, and civilian employees stretching from the West Coast of the mainland U.S. to the Eastern shores of Africa, and from the Arctic to the Antarctic. Our forces represent about twenty per cent of all U.S. active duty military with approximately 100,000 forces forward deployed.

U.S. Pacific Command consists of:

- Four subordinate unified commands: U.S. Forces Japan; U.S. Forces Korea; Alaskan Command; and Special Operations Command, Pacific.
- Four component commands: U.S. Army Pacific, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Pacific Air Forces, and Marine Forces Pacific.

- Three direct reporting units: Center of Excellence in Disaster Management, Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies, and Joint Intelligence Center Pacific.
- Three standing Joint Task Forces: Joint Task Force-Full Accounting, Joint Interagency Task Force West, and Joint Task Force 510.

Pacific Fleet

The U.S. Pacific Fleet (PACFLT) is the world's largest naval command. It includes nearly half of the U.S. Navy's total strength. The fleet is active in the Arctic, Indian, and Pacific Oceans. PACFLT is responsible for the protection of sea lanes that link the United States with Asian and Pacific nations and trading partners, and supports allied forces ashore.

PACFLT coordinates Navy support activities ashore through regional coordinators. Western Pacific regional coordinators command U.S. Navy shore activities in Japan, the Republic of Korea, and Guam. The remaining regional coordinators command U.S. Navy shore activities in San Diego, Seattle, and Pearl Harbor.

Marine Forces Pacific

The single largest U.S. Marine Corps command is designated as both Marine Forces Pacific (MARFORPAC) and Fleet Marine Force, Pacific (FMFPAC). Headquartered at Camp H. M. Smith, Hawaii, MARFORPAC consists of two-thirds of the total operational forces of the Marine Corps. MARFORPAC is comprised of two of the Corps' three Marine Expeditionary Forces (MEFs), each of which has a division, an aircraft wing, a force service support group, and a command element.

U.S. Army Pacific

The U.S. Army, Pacific (USARPAC) is the Army Service Component Command (ASCC) headquarters for the United States Pacific Command. USARPAC's mission is to provide United States Commander in Chief, Pacific (USCINCPAC) trained and ready forces in support of security operations, from theater security cooperation to war fighting, to promote regional stability, and ensure successful crisis response or decisive victory. Commander, USARPAC, commands active and Army reserve units in Alaska, American Samoa, Guam, Hawaii, and Japan. He is responsible for the mobilization readiness of Army National Guard units in Alaska, Guam, and Hawaii. As a Major Army Command (MACOM), USARPAC provides installation support to the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii; U.S. Army, Alaska; and U.S. Army, Japan; and to agencies of the Department of the Army, the Department of Defense, and other government agencies that depend on the U.S. Army for support.

Pacific Air Forces

Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) is the Air Force component of the U.S. Pacific Command. PACAF's mission is to plan, conduct, and coordinate offensive and defensive air operations within the U.S. Pacific Command. Its four numbered air forces operate in Japan, the Republic of Korea, Alaska, and Guam.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

The Department of Energy promotes consumer interests, encourages competition in the energy industries, and protects the nation's environment and the health and safety of its citizens. The activities of the Department include: research, development, and demonstration of energy technology; marketing federal power; energy conservation; the nuclear weapons program; regulating energy production and use; pricing and allocation; and a central energy data collection and analysis program.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) has programmatic, financial management, coordination, and oversight responsibilities for a broad range of programs that promote and enhance the economic and social well-being of children, families, individuals, and communities. The agency provides policy guidance and technical assistance to state, territory, county, city, and tribal governments and community-based organizations responsible for administering these programs. The agency also monitors and evaluates performance and financial operations to ensure consistent and uniform adherence to federal requirements for these same entities.

The ACF has responsibility for administering the following programs: adoption assistance; Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); child abuse and neglect; child care; child support enforcement; child welfare services; developmental disabilities; foster care; Head Start; Job Opportunities and Basic Skills Training (JOBS); and runaway and homeless youth.

Food and Drug Administration

The Food and Drug Administration is responsible for protecting the health of the nation's people against impure and unsafe foods, drugs, and cosmetics, and other potential hazards. It assures the compliance of manufacturers with labeling standards and evaluates the sanitation conditions of manufacturers to assure that products are manufactured under established standards. In addition, it is responsible for ensuring that interstate commercial carriers provide their passengers with safe drinking water, food, and sanitary facilities. The Food and Drug Administration develops workshops on problems that are inherent in particular manufacturing

processes and participates in meetings to distribute information on issues and policies. The Administration is also concerned with radiological health, veterinary medicine, medical devices, and toxicological research.

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services administers the Medicare, Medicaid, and State Children's Health Insurance programs, and is responsible for the health care delivery of these programs.

Public Health Service Quarantine

The Public Health Service Quarantine's mission is to prevent the importation and spread of communicable disease from foreign areas. This involves the inspection of persons, biologicals, insects, and animals that may be vectors of human diseases.

Social Security Administration

The Social Security Administration assists applicants in filing claims for benefits under Social Security's retirement, survivors, disability, and Medicare insurance programs, and for Supplemental Security Income benefits for the needy aged, blind, and disabled. The Social Security Administration also provides for and administers appeals and reviews of its operation and decisions.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is the federal agency responsible for national policy and programs to address America's housing needs, to improve and develop the nation's communities, and for enforcing the Fair Housing Laws. It provides housing assistance for the poor, resources to communities to spur housing and economic development, and plays a major role in supporting homeownership by underwriting homeownership for lower- and moderate-income families through its FHA mortgage insurance program. Through both competitive and noncompetitive formula-based programs, HUD supports the needs of a variety of constituencies, such as housing opportunities for persons with AIDS, persons with disabilities, and the elderly.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service Pacific Islands Ecoregion

The Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal federal bureau for the conservation, protection, and enhancement of wildlife and plants and their habitats. Its chief duties cover

migratory birds, endangered species, certain marine mammals, freshwater and anadromous fish, and the National Wildlife Refuge System.

The Pacific Islands Ecoregion, one of fifty-two ecoregions established across the nation, includes all of the insular habitats under U.S. jurisdiction in the Pacific Ocean, stretching as far west as Palau, and as far south as American Samoa. Nineteen National Wildlife Refuges are administered within its boundaries, providing protected areas to help ensure the continued survival of many unique flora and fauna.

Geological Survey, Water Resources Discipline

The Water Resources Discipline of the United States Geological Survey is responsible for determining and evaluating the quantity, quality, and distribution of water resources in Hawaii and the territories in the Pacific. Included in the activities of the Discipline are the systematic collection, analysis, and interpretation of hydrologic and geologic data; the evaluation of water resources by areas or by problem; the conducting of basic and applied hydrologic research; and the preparation of the results of investigations for publication. The investigations of the Discipline are conducted in cooperation with state, county, and territorial agencies. In addition, the Discipline provides scientific and technological assistance to other federal agencies involved with water problems.

National Park Service

The Pacific Islands System Support Office of the National Park Service administers in Hawaii the operations and development of two national parks (Hawaii Volcanoes and Haleakala), three national historic parks (Pu'uhonua O Honaunau, Kaloko-Honokohau, and Kalaupapa), one national historic site (Pu'ukohola Heiau), and the Arizona Memorial.

In addition to the seven units of the National Park System in Hawaii, the Office also administers the National Park of American Samoa, the War in the Pacific National Historical Park in Guam, and the American Memorial Park in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Drug Enforcement Administration

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) enforces federal drug trafficking laws and brings to the criminal and civil justice systems those organizations, and their principal members, involved in controlled substances; and supports non-enforcement programs aimed at reducing the availability of illicit controlled substances on the domestic and international markets.

The major functions of the DEA include: acting as the lead agency responsible for the development of overall federal drug enforcement strategy, programs, planning, and evaluation; managing a national narcotics intelligence system in cooperation with federal, state, and foreign officials; seizing assets related to illicit drug trafficking; and maintaining liaison with the United Nations, INTERPOL, and other organizations on matters relating to international narcotics control programs. The DEA is responsible for programs associated with drug law enforcement counterparts in foreign countries under the policy guidance of the Secretary of State and the U.S. ambassadors.

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Since its inception in 1908 under the U.S. Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has been the principal investigative agency for the U.S. Government. The FBI's investigative responsibilities cover both violations of federal criminal laws and matters involving U.S. national security. Currently, the FBI is responsible for more than 500 different federal criminal violations including, but not limited to, trafficking in illegal drugs, racketeering/organized crimes, white-collar crimes, cybercrimes, crimes against children, and violent crimes.

The FBI is the lead counter-intelligence agency in the U.S. and is responsible for threats to U.S. national security interests. The top threats to national security interests include, but are not limited to, terrorism, espionage, economic espionage, targeting of information infrastructure, and foreign intelligence gathering. Pursuant to Presidential Decision Directive 39 (PDD-39), the FBI is the lead federal law enforcement agency in counterterrorism investigations and has primary crisis management responsibilities for acts of terrorism occurring in the U.S., its territories, and whenever U.S. interests and/or citizens are targeted abroad.

The FBI provides a variety of services to domestic and foreign law enforcement agencies including, but not limited to, laboratory/forensic examinations, psychological profiling, and police training. The FBI National Academy also provides leadership/management training to domestic and foreign police officials.

Immigration and Naturalization Service

The Immigration and Naturalization Service enforces federal laws relating to the admission, exclusion, deportation, and naturalization of aliens in the State of Hawaii and on Guam. Its responsibilities include the inspection of all persons arriving from foreign countries to determine their admissibility to the United States, examination and investigation of applicants for United States citizenship, adjudication of requests by aliens for benefits under the law, guarding against illegal entry into the United States, and the investigation, apprehension, and removal of aliens in this country who are law violators.

United States Attorney's Office

The United States Attorney serves as the local representative of the Attorney General of the United States. It is the duty of the United States Attorney to prosecute for all offenses against the United States, and all civil actions in which the United States is concerned.

United States Marshals Service

The United States Marshals Service is responsible for a variety of administrative and law enforcement duties that facilitate the administration of the federal judicial process in Hawaii. The responsibilities of the Service include the preservation of order in the federal courts; the execution of all lawful writs, processes, and orders that are issued under authority of the courts; the transportation and commitment of federal prisoners; and the protection of witnesses to organized crime. The United States Marshals Service also performs special assignments at the direction of the Attorney General of the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment Standards Administration

Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs. The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) promotes federal contractors' compliance with equal employment opportunity laws during the performance of their federal contracts. Through Executive Order 11246, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, OFCCP enforces equal opportunity standards for all individuals, including women, minorities, Vietnam era veterans, and persons with disabilities.

OFCCP serves a wide variety of constituents, working in collaboration with corporations and community liaison groups, providing an array of products and services, and ensuring compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Office of Workers' Compensation Programs. The Office of Workers' Compensation Programs is responsible for the administration of the three basic federal workers' compensation laws: the Federal Employees Compensation Act, which provides workers' compensation for federal employees and others; the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act and its various extensions, which provide benefits to employees in private enterprise while engaged in maritime employment on navigable waters in the United States, as well as employees of certain government contractors and to private employers in the District of Columbia; and the Black Lung Benefits Act.

Wage and Hour Division. The Wage and Hour Division is responsible for administering programs designed to increase and protect low-wage incomes; safeguard the health and welfare of workers by regulating overtime provisions; prevent curtailment of employment and earnings for students, trainees, and handicapped workers; minimize the loss of income and

employment rights due to indebtedness; and direct a program of farm labor contractor registration for the protection of migrant laborers. The Division predetermines the prevailing wage rates for federal construction contracts and programs.

Employment and Training Administration

The Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training is concerned with the welfare of apprentices and the formulation of apprenticeship programs through the provision of assistance, technical information, and training to sponsors.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration develops and promulgates occupational safety and health standards and regulations; conducts investigations and inspections to determine compliance with standards and regulations; and issues citations and proposes penalties for noncompliance.

Office of Labor-Management Standards

The Office of Labor-Management Standards administers those provisions of federal laws which affect labor organizations representing employees in private industry and most federal agencies subject to similar standards of conduct. These provisions regulate certain internal union procedures and protect the rights of members in approximately 36,000 unions and govern the handling of union funds; the reporting and disclosure of certain financial transactions and administrative practices of unions, union officers and employees, surety companies, employers, and labor relations consultants; the election of union officers; the imposition and administration of trusteeships; and other related matters.

Veterans Employment and Training Service

The Veterans Employment and Training Service is responsible for assuring that the policies of the Secretary of Labor and the United States Employment Service are carried out by the local public employment service offices. The Service provides job placement, training, and counseling activities directly and through affiliated state employment services.

The Service also enforces the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act and ensures that members of the uniformed services do not lose their jobs and other employment benefits because of military service.

The Service is responsible for the Transition Assistance Program which provides information and assistance to members of the Armed Forces who are within 180 days of separation, their spouses, and Department of Defense civilians, with the aim of providing skills

which will decrease the period of unemployment and the information to make a suitable educational or career choice.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Honolulu Passport Agency

The Passport Agency is responsible for the issuance of U.S. passports and for providing information on other related services to U.S. citizens and nationals for the purposes of travelling abroad. Tourist and military dependent applications, amendments, and additions of visa pages are handled locally. Applications for Official and Diplomatic passports are accepted locally and then forwarded to Washington, D.C., for issuance. The Agency also provides extensive information on foreign visa requirements for U.S. citizens, and consular information sheets and travel warnings to all customers.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

United States Coast Guard, 14th District

The United States Coast Guard, 14th District, commands all assigned operational units and activities ashore and afloat in the Central Western Pacific. It acts as the Central Pacific Search and Rescue Coordinator, coordinating all civilian search and rescue operations in Hawaii. To ensure the safety and full economic availability of U.S. ports, the Coast Guard controls access to vessels and waterfront facilities, enforces rules governing the security of ports and anchorages, supervises the handling of dangerous cargos, and directs fire prevention measures. Its preventive program for commercial vessel safety minimizes loss of life, property damage, and personal injuries sustained in commercial, scientific, or exploratory activity in the marine environment. The 14th District enforces federal laws on the high seas and navigable waters of the U.S. and its possessions, including illegal alien and drug interdiction, and the protection of living marine resources. It maintains aids to navigation such as buoys, the Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS), short-range radio beacons, and fog signals. It also administers a boating safety program aimed at making the operation of small craft pleasurable and safe, and manages a maritime environmental protection program aimed at preventing, detecting, and controlling pollution on the nation's navigable waters. Additionally, the Coast Guard Auxiliary assists the District in many missions and provides extensive boating safety educational courses for the boating public. Finally, the 14th Coast Guard District stands always ready to fulfill its role as a full-fledged military member of the Armed Forces in the nation's defense.

Federal Aviation Administration

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is responsible for the promotion, regulation, and safety of civil aviation, and for the safe and efficient use of airspace by the military and civilians within a geographical area of approximately 24.7 million square miles. In addition, the

FAA enforces air safety regulations; certifies pilots and airports; issues and enforces standards relating to the manufacture, operation, and maintenance of aircraft; provides guidance to public sponsors in developing, improving, and maintaining airports; and maintains air navigational aids.

Federal Highway Administration

The Federal Highway Administration is concerned with highway transportation and facilities. Its duties include the administration of federal-aid highway programs of financial assistance to the states for highway construction; the development and administration of highway safety programs; the administration of the transportation enhancement program; the promotion of new technologies; provisions for intermodal planning and connections; provisions for relocation assistance to persons displaced by highway construction; and encouragement of the joint use and development of highway corridors.

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) primary mission is to prevent commercial motor vehicle-related fatalities and injuries. The agency's goal is to reduce commercial truck-related fatalities fifty per cent by 2010. It provides technical assistance and education on commercial motor vehicle safety and hazardous material regulations to interstate motor carriers, highway hazardous material shippers, and state and local law enforcement agencies. The FMCSA conducts regulatory compliance reviews of commercial entities that operate trucks or buses in interstate commerce, commercial hazardous material shippers and carriers, and all entities that employ drivers who are subject to federal drug and alcohol testing requirements.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms enforces and administers federal laws relating to firearms, explosives, alcoholic beverages, and tobacco products. The Bureau collects revenues due from the alcohol and tobacco industries; discovers and eliminates illegal firearms and explosives; and suppresses illegal alcohol traffic.

Customs Service

The Customs Service is responsible for the enforcement of customs and related laws and the collection of revenues from imports. It collects duties, excise taxes, fees, and penalties due on imported merchandise; apprehends persons violating customs and related laws; seizes contraband; and enforces laws and regulations promulgated to protect American business and labor from foreign competition. The Service also assists in the enforcement of laws and

regulations relating to international trade, including suppression of illegal drug traffic. It assists other agencies in enforcing laws and regulations designed to protect the general welfare of the American people.

Internal Revenue Service

The mission of the Internal Revenue Service is to provide America's taxpayers top quality service by helping them understand and meet their tax responsibilities and by applying the tax law with integrity and fairness to all.

Secret Service

The Secret Service has investigative responsibility for detecting and arresting persons engaged in: the counterfeiting, forgery, or alteration of currency and other obligations of the U.S. and foreign governments; fraud involving credit and debit cards; telecommunication and computer crimes; the manufacture and possession of false identification; fraudulent government and commercial securities; and electronic funds transfer fraud.

The Secret Service also provides protection to the President and the Vice President or the next officer in succession to the presidency and their immediate families, the President-elect, the Vice President-elect, major presidential and vice-presidential candidates, any former President and spouse, any widow or minor child of a former President, and any visiting head of a foreign state or government.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

The Veterans Affairs Medical and Regional Office Center (VAMROC) in Honolulu serves veterans in Hawaii and the Pacific Basin and provides selected benefits for active duty personnel in Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands, Micronesia, Marshall Islands, and Palau.

Veterans Benefits Administration

The Regional Office for benefits administration is comprised of four divisions: Adjudication, Loan Guaranty, Veterans Services, and Vocational Rehabilitation and Counseling. Specialized personnel from the Veterans Services and Vocational Rehabilitation divisions conduct field visits throughout the State and the Pacific Basin to provide services to veterans and active duty military members who are geographically isolated.

Veterans Health Administration

The Honolulu VAMROC provides a broad range of general medical and specialized outpatient treatment for eligible veterans. It also provides health services on the islands of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai, and Guam. Specialized services are provided for veterans through the Pacific Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. VAMROC is affiliated with the University of Hawaii School of Medicine in the fields of medicine, psychiatry, and geriatrics.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE

The Corporation for National Service (CNS), formerly ACTION, is an independent agency which administers and coordinates the domestic volunteer programs sponsored by the federal government. Its purpose is to mobilize Americans for voluntary service throughout the nation and in the territories. Programs included in CNS are AmeriCorps, VISTA, Foster Grandparents, Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, Senior Companions, and Learn and Serve.

The efforts supported by the Corporation address the nation's challenges in the areas of education, public safety, human needs, and the environment--with a strong emphasis on achieving direct and demonstrable results.

In addition, the Corporation's programs are public-private partnerships with national and community-based service organizations; corporations and foundations; colleges and universities; and local schools and police districts.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

The Environmental Protection Agency provides coordinated and effective governmental action in the protection of the environment by, among other things, abating and controlling air, water, solid waste, noise, radiation, pesticide, and toxic waste pollution; conducting research; supporting environmental programs of state and local governments; and commenting on environmental impact statements.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) enforces Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Public Law 88-352), as amended; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA) of 1967 (Public Law 90-202), as amended; the Equal Pay Act (EPA) of 1963 (Public Law 88-38); and Section 501 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-112), as amended.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, is the federal law that prohibits employment discrimination based on race, color, sex, religion, or national origin. Title VII was extended to cover federal, state, and local public employers and educational institutions by the

Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972 (Public Law 92-261). This amendment to Title VII also gave the Commission the authority to file suit in federal district court against employers in the private sector on behalf of individuals whose charges were not successfully conciliated.

In pursuing its mission of eradicating discrimination in the workplace, the Commission utilizes a number of strategies including investigation, settlement, litigation, mediation, and education. The Commission encourages employers to be proactive in preventing discrimination and provides technical assistance to employers through education about employment discrimination laws.

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

The Federal Emergency Management Agency is the focal point within the federal government for emergency planning, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery. The Agency works closely with state and local governments by funding emergency programs and providing technical guidance and training. These coordinated activities at the federal, state, and local levels ensure a broad-based emergency program to protect public safety and property.

FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE

The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service promotes the development of sound and stable labor-management relationships. It assists labor and management to settle their disputes through mediation in order to prevent or minimize work stoppages; advocates collective bargaining, mediation, and voluntary arbitration; develops the art, science, and practice of dispute resolution; and fosters mutual understanding and solution of common problems between labor and management.

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Federal Supply Service

The Federal Supply Service operates a government-wide supply system to support federal agencies worldwide with over \$25.8 billion worth of goods and services annually. Items supplied run the gamut from office supplies to computer equipment. The Service also operates two retail stores in Hawaii, which provide quality products at competitive prices: a Customer Supply Center (CSC) at Hickam Air Force Base and a CSC at Schofield Barracks. Both stores service walk-in federal customers, while the Hickam store also provides mail-order service to Pacific and Far East federal customers.

Federal Technology Service

The mission of the Federal Technology Service (FTS) is to provide integrated information technology (IT) solutions and network services that deliver the best value and

innovations to support federal agencies' missions worldwide. To accomplish its mission, FTS acts as a wholesale buyer and reseller of IT commodities (hardware, software, supplies) and services (contractor technicians performing at the agency's site). Examples of commodities include PCs, laptops, servers, printers, radios, antennae, etc. Examples of contractor technicians include systems analysts/programmers, database managers, LAN administrators, Web developers, Help Desk support, etc. Telecommunications includes telephone dial tone, domestic and international dialing, etc.

FTS offers a full range of IT and network support to federal agencies (and to state and local government agencies if federally funded). Key components of its program that enable it to provide this support include: providing value-added services and support, with its contracting and acquisition expertise, as well as technical expertise; maximizing competition to deliver the highest quality services at the lowest prices; utilizing pre-awarded contractual vehicles for quick turn-around; providing continuous monitoring of task orders to adjust to changing requirements; utilizing a web-based management and tracking system for all orders, accessible by all parties (GSA, the agency, and the contractor); and the IT Revolving Fund, authorized by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), which allows for funding flexibility.

Public Buildings Service

The Public Buildings Service is the largest of the services provided by the General Services Administration and is the largest public real estate organization in the United States, maintaining more than 339 million square feet of workspace for more than a million Federal employees in over 1,600 American communities.

The Service is responsible for the design, building or leasing, management, appraisal, operation, protection, and maintenance of most federally controlled buildings in the United States.

The Service encourages renovation and conversion to federal use of older buildings that have historic or cultural value. Protection of federal buildings is of major importance to the Service, which utilizes mechanical and human security systems.

The Honolulu Property Management Office located in the Prince Kuhio Federal Building manages a real property portfolio of 61 buildings, representing 1.8 million square feet of owned and lease space. The office spaces of the Honolulu portfolio are located in the State of Hawaii, and on the islands of Guam, Saipan, Northern Mariana, and American Samoa.

The cornerstone of the portfolio is the Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalanianaʻole Federal Building U.S. Courthouse located in downtown Honolulu.

HONOLULU-PACIFIC FEDERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Honolulu-Pacific Federal Executive Board (FEB), like executive boards in other jurisdictions, is a concept introduced by former President John F. Kennedy and is directed

toward achieving greater unity of purpose and a better focus on the federal government's efforts to effectively serve its citizens. The Board is composed of principal representatives of each federal agency in the State who meet to improve interagency communication and coordination between their respective agencies. Members of the Board also establish communication between the Board and Washington so as to keep informed of national programs which have presidential interest and to secure support for local activities from high levels of government. The FEB provides the context and contact by which resources can be shared and joint federal initiatives can be implemented on a broader scale and thereby made more effective.

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) administers the laws relating to labor relations. Its two principal functions are preventing and remedying unfair labor practices through investigation and adjudication, and conducting secret ballot elections among employees to determine whether they wish collective bargaining representation. Additionally, the NLRB conducts secret ballot elections when employees wish to change collective bargaining representatives and settles jurisdictional disputes concerning performance of types of work among groups of employees.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

The Small Business Administration provides aid and counseling to small businesses; works with lenders to guarantee loans made to small businesses and local development companies; ensures that small businesses receive a portion of government purchases, contracts, subcontracts, and government property when disposed; guarantees surety bonds of small business contractors; licenses, regulates, and makes loans to small business investment companies; makes loans to victims of natural catastrophies or certain types of economic injury; improves the management skills of small business owners and managers through counseling, workshops and special programs; and conducts studies.

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is responsible for the administration of the merit based federal personnel system. OPM's responsibilities include recruitment and staffing operations; program evaluation and training; leadership in affirmative action and labor relations; and the administration of the federal employee retirement and insurance programs.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

The Postal Service is an agency independent of the executive branch of the federal government. It provides mail processing and delivery services within the United States and internationally.

There is a Postal Inspection Service Office in Honolulu. Its responsibility is to protect the mails, postal funds, and property; investigate internal conditions and requirements affecting security and effectiveness; and apprehend violators of postal laws. The Inspection Service also inspects and audits financial and nonfinancial operations.

UNITED STATES COURTS

Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals

The Courts of Appeals are intermediate appellate courts, immediately below the United States Supreme Court, which review appeals of cases decided by lower courts.

The nation is divided into twelve circuits, and Hawaii is part of the Ninth Circuit. Of the twenty-eight active circuit judges assigned to the Ninth Circuit, and thirteen senior circuit judges on its roster, one senior judge is based in Honolulu.

United States District Court, District of Hawaii

The District Court is a trial court with general federal jurisdiction. There is at least one District Court in each state. Hawaii has one District Court with four District Judges. In addition, as allowed under federal law, there are two federal judges called Senior Judges who are assigned a reduced caseload.

Other officers of the District Court include the Bankruptcy Judge, Magistrate Judges, Federal Public Defender, the Clerk of Court, Federal Probation Officer, and Federal Pretrial Services Officer.